

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 04731 061415Z

65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OMB-01 ACDA-07 SAM-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

EB-07 EUR-12 IO-13 TRSE-00 SAB-01 /093 W

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O R 061101Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5214

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 4731

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, JO, SA

SUBJECT: KING HUSSEIN'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

1. JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN DEPARTED SAUDI ARABIA EVENING JULY 5 AFTER A VISIT OF SLIGHTLY OVER 24 HOURS. SAUDI (#) VISIT THAT PRIMARY SUBJECT ON HUSSEIN'S MIND WOULD BE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM FOR JORDAN. THE OFFICIAL TALKS BEGAN MORNING OF JULY 5 BY WHICH TIME PM RIFAI WAS PRESENT AND PARTICIPATING.

2. SAUDI PRESS HAS BEEN TYPICALLY SPARING IN PROVIDING DETAILS OF KING'S VISIT. MOST INFORMATIVE ACCOUNT CONTAINED IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE "SAUDI GAZETTE" UNDER AMBIGUOUS HEADLINE "SAUDI-JORDANIAN TALKS END ON AMICABLE NOTE." ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPER'S ACCOUNT "THE TALKS DEALT AMONG OTHER THINGS WITH THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT SUBJECTS: (1) CURRENT LEBANESE DEVELOPMENTS . . . ARAB LEAGUE DECISIONS . . . RELATED TO A CEASEFIRE . . . (2) BILATERAL RELATIONS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED WITH AGREEMENT REACHED ON CLOSER ECONOMIC COOPERATION . . . KING HUSSEIN BRIEFED THE SAUDI MONARCH

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 04731 061415Z

ON THE OUTCOME OF (HIS) RECENT VISIT TO THE SOVIET

UNION. BEFORE KING HUSSEIN LEFT FOR MOSCOW TALKS WERE HELD ON POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF US ARMS AND WAYS AND MEANS OF FINANCING THE PURCHASE . . . THE TWO SIDES REVIEWED THE MIDEAST CRISIS AND POSSIBLE NEW US INITIATIVES . . . PROSPECTS OF RECONVENING THE GENEVA MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE AND POSSIBLE NEW STEPS TOWARDS A DISENGAGEMENT ON THE WEST BANK OF THE JORDAN WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. THE MEETING ALSO STUDIED PROSPECTS OF A GULF SECURITY CONFERENCE AND . . . IRAN'S POSITION ON GULF SECURITY. IT WAS ALSO LEARNED THAT A HIGH LEVEL MEETING BETWEEN SAUDI ARABIA AND JORDAN WILL BE HELD TO FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS THAT MIGHT ACCRUE FROM THE PRESENT TALKS."

3. WE WILL BE GETTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON KING HUSSEIN'S TALKS HERE WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR SO. VISIT WAS GIVEN MAJOR MEDIA ATTENTION AND KING HUSSEIN WAS GREETED WITH ALL APPROPRIATE POMP AND APPARENTLY GREAT CORDIALITY. TONE AND CONTENTS OF MEDIA COVERAGE DO NOT, HOWEVER, ENGENDER OPTIMISM CONCERNING A BREAKTHROUGH ON THE AIR DEFENSE FINANCING PROBLEM.

4. I HOPE TO SEE OR RECEIVE INFO FROM PRINCE FAHD ON THIS SUBJECT, PROBABLY AFTER SAUDIS FORM OPINION ON WHATEVER IT WAS THAT HUSSEIN SAID TO THEM.
PORTER

NOTE BY OC/T: (#) OMISSION CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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